injurious. To remove the evils resulting from such a system the Member made the following suggestions : —

1. Some of the subjects included in the course of studies in High Schools should be substituted by commercial subjects such as book-keeping and banking, which should be made optional.

2. Under the present arrangement Indian and Travancore history did not form a subject for public examinations. It was a sorry spectacle that those who came out of those examinations did not know anything about the past of their own country. It was highly necessary that a study of the history of Travancore and India, together with an outline of the constitution and civics of both, should be made compulsory for all students, whatever be their optional subjects of study.

The Member emphasised the need for good books for detailed study in the various classes and opined that non-detailed books were not necessary, especially in the lower classes. In dealing with the question of fee concessions, the Member said that those concessions were not based on sound principles, since there was no provision for helping pupils belonging to communities outside the pale of the G. O. regulating those concessions. The Member suggested that provision be made for a number of free studentships in every school and that the discretion in the matter of the award of free studentships be vested in the headmasters of the respective schools in question. He then stated that there was great delay in the disbursement of scholarships which caused much inconvenience to the poor scholarship-holders and suggested that the amounts of scholarships might be set off against fees and the balance, if any, paid to the scholarship-holders, as such a course would really serve the purpose of awarding scholarships, so far as poor students were concerned. Referring to the question of selection of teachers, the Member laid stress on the need for a proper selection and suggested that the emoluments be made to compare favourably with those for similar qualifications in other departments.

The other suggestions made by the Member were—

(1) that Head-masters' and Teachers' Conferences be given a proper place in the scheme of administration of the Education Department and that their recommendations and resolutions be made to form the basis for shaping the educational policy of the State ; and

(2) that vernacular be made the medium of instruction in High Schools especially in subjects not purely of a scientific nature; and

(3) that religious and moral instruction be imparted in all schools.

In conclusion, the Member advocated the appointment of Indian educational experts to overhaul the system of education in Travancore.

President's reply.—You referred to the delay in the disbursement of scholarships in the College. I understand from the Director of Public Instruction that there is not much delay in the payment of these scholarships. If, however, there is delay in any case, it will be looked into. The Director will be asked to see that these scholarships are awarded and disbursed promptly.

Your suggestion that the scholarships be set off against the fees and that the balance alone be paid to the scholarship-holders will be referred to the Director of Public Instruction.

Your suggestions regarding the curricula of studies and the text books for non-detailed study are noted.

Your further suggestion that concessions in the matter of fees should be given only to the deserving poor is noted.

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS.—(*Continued.*)

125. Certain needs of Attingal.

Mr. S. Nilakanta Aiyar (Member, Municipal Council, Attingal) in speaking about the need of a satrom at Attingal for the travelling public said that it was not

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a new subject for representation and that the inconvenience felt had been explained at more than one session of the Assembly. In view of the fact that some of the vacant Government buildings could be easily converted into a satrom, the Member prayed that his proposal might be brought into effect as early as practicable.

The Member next pleaded for a separate English school for girls. He said that it was a long-felt want represented in previous sessions of the Assembly also. On account of there being no separate school for girls, grown-up girls were now being sent to the local boys' school which for several reasons was not desirable. The necessity was so keenly felt that the Municipal Council was prepared to conduct a school, if a building was made available.

Finally, the Member put in an earnest plea for introducing the principle of local option within the municipal limits of Attingal.

President's reply.—As regards local option, the matter is under the consideration of the Excise Committee. Fixing the number of shops and their location is one of the subjects engaging the attention of that Committee. Your remarks will be borne in mind when Government pass orders on the report of the Committee.

In regrad to the establishment of a school for girls at Attingal, your suggestion is that, if a building is handed over to the Municipal Council, the Council will be prepared to maintain and run the school. When a regular resolution of the Council on that subject comes up before the Government, the matter will be considered.

As regards the provision of a satrom at Attingal, the matter will be further examined in the light of your present representation.

VII. EDUCATION.—(*Continued.*)

126. Need for a federal type of University for Travancore.

Mr. M. V. Mathew B. A. (Member, Nominated) said at the outset that he had already expressed his view on the subject in response to the invitation of the University Committee. No scheme had perhaps roused such keen interest and attention in the West Coast as the proposed University, and the most ardent prayer and sincerest wish of all Travancoreans was that the scheme might soon become a *fait accompli*. A University was an immediate need in this country. In 1910 India had only 5 Universities, while there were so many as 15 now and many more were in sight. Dr. Miller considered Trivandrum as a fit centre for a University as early as 1885. Dr. Mitchell practically started the idea of a Travancore University in 1910. In view of those facts the resolution in the Legislative Council on that subject was a move in the right direction.

In regard to the ambit of the institution, the Member considered that, though the Government should certainly welcome all eligible areas for linguistic, ethnical and other reasons, they could not wait for them ; much less could they subordinate the interests of Travancore to those of Cochin and British Malabar. His Highness the Maha Raja should be the Chancellor, irrespective of any outside areas that might be tacked on to the Travancore University. The high level of literacy of the people and the variety, number and grade of educational institutions in Travancore would justify a separate University for the State. A University had been started in Burma with a poor First Grade College, a poorer Second Grade College and a Law College much inferior to the one in Trivandrum. The prestige of a University depended on its standard of teaching and not upon its geographical extent. The degrees of German Universities of extremely microscopic areas were welcomed everywhere, while those of the immensely extensive Chinese and Japanese Universities carried no weight. In regard to faculties, the Travancore University should not now think of the Medical and Engineering courses which might cost over Rs. 50 lakhs by way of non-recurring expenditure. A beginning should be made with an attempt at co-ordinating the existing institutions in Trivandrum.

The Member then observed that a kind of federation might be effected by the central with the mofussil colleges for the pursuit of extensive culture. The bachelors'

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